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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/124,754	07/29/1998	SHINICHIROU GOTOU	P7439-8005	7056

4372 7590 06/21/2002

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EXAMINER

TANG, KENNETH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2156

DATE MAILED: 06/21/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/124,754

Applicant(s)

GOTOU ET AL.

Examiner

Kenneth Tang

Art Unit

2156

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This office action in response to application filed on March 10, 1999. Claims 1-17 are presented for examination.

Applicants are requested to note PTO-948 concerning notice of draftsman's patent drawing review. However, correction of the noted defect can be deferred until the application is allowed by the examiner. Applicants are reminded of the provision of MPEP 608.02(q) and (r) regarding a separate letter to the chief Draftsman.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirakawa (5,664,126) in view of DeLorme (US Patent Number 5,559,707) and further view of Dunworth (US Patent Number 5,930,474).

2. Referring to claims 1, 6, 11, 13-14, Hirakawa teaches an email system (electronic mail, col 32, lines 11-17) comprising:

- Text input means (text transmission, col 22, lines 37-47);
- Extracting means (text retrieving, col 2, lines 55);
- Adding means (information added, col 33, lines 34-42);
- Text display means (visualizer, 230, col 11 and col 22).

Hirakawa fails to explicitly teach a system specifying a place and a map display means. However, DeLorme teaches the use of a map display for showing map information of a specified place (map display, waypoint, col 35, lines 11-44). It would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine a map navigation feature of DeLorme to the system of Hirakawa so that map information can be transmitted and received.

The reference of DeLorme fails to explicitly teach launching a map program for a different user. However, Dunworth teaches user initiation of a regional geographic search from, for example, a personal computer or terminal connected and transmitted through internet connection. Therefore, it would be obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination system of Hirakawa in view of DeLorme with launching a program through internet connection for a different

user of Dunworth, so that map information can be connected and launched by email from one terminal to a different terminal.

3. Referring to claims 2, 5, 7-10, Hirakawa teaches using a transmitter communication terminal for transmitting email (Figure 24, 530) and a receiver communication terminal for receiving email (Figure 24, 540). Hirakawa also teaches the use of a server (site server 200) connected by a communication link (site handler 240). It is well known that a server has the capability of storing data - data that could include map information.

4. Referring to claims 3 and 4, DeLorme teaches the use of a route guidance means (displayed route, col 11, lines 34-50) and coordinate data (geographical coordinate system, col 3, lines 11-18).

5. Referring to claim 12, Hirakawa teaches an system that can transmit and receive email (electronic mail, col 32, lines 11-17).

6. Referring to claim 15, it is rejected for the same reasons as stated in the rejection of claims 1, 6, 11, 13-14 described above.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenneth Tang whose telephone number is (703) 305-5334. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alvin Oberley can be reached on (703)305-9716. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are none for regular communications and none for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is none.



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June 13, 2002


MAJID BANANKHAH
PRIMARY EXAMINER